IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows (present amendments based on the claims as amended by way of the Preliminary Amendment of January 29, 2004):

1-6.   (Canceled)

7.   (New) A system including an imaging means having pixels arranged in a two-dimensional matrix, comprising:

pixel information addition means for combining pixel information for a number of said pixels and selectively extracting the combined pixel information,

wherein a frame rate of the imaging means is variable and dependent on the number of said pixels.

8.   (New) The system of claim 7, wherein the system is a car-mounted imaging apparatus.

9.   (New) The system of claim 8, further comprising:

a car driving assistance apparatus for:

rendering an image in front of a car,

based on the image, determining an existence/absence of an obstacle in front of the car, and

executing control to selectively response to the obstacle,

wherein the image is acquired by the car-mounted imaging apparatus.

10.   (New) The system of claim 8, further comprising:

      a car driving assistance apparatus for:

            imaging an image inside a cabin of a car,

            based on the image, determining at least one of whether a driver is

                  a registered driver, whether a person exists in a assistant

                  driver's seat, and whether a person exists in rear seats, and

            based on the determining, executing control for at least one of

                  burglarproofing of the car, inhibiting expansion of an air

                  bag of the assistant driver's seat, and an effective operation

                  of an air conditioner,

      wherein the image is acquired by the car-mounted imaging apparatus.

11.   (New) The system of claim 7, further comprising:

      area designation means for designating at least one area in the imaging

            means, wherein the number of said pixels are located in the at least

            one area.

12.   (New) The system of claim 11, wherein the system is a car-mounted imaging

apparatus.

13.   (New) The system of claim 12, further comprising:

      a car driving assistance apparatus for:

rendering an image in front of a car,

based on the image, determining an existence/absence of an

obstacle in front of the car, and

executing control to selectively response to the obstacle,

wherein the image is acquired by the car-mounted imaging apparatus.

14.   (New) The system of claim 12, further comprising:

a car driving assistance apparatus for:

imaging an image inside a cabin of a car,

based on the image, determining at least one of whether a driver is

a registered driver, whether a person exists in a assistant

driver's seat, and whether a person exists in rear seats, and

based on the determining, executing control for at least one of

burglarproofing of the car, inhibiting expansion of an air

bag of the assistant driver's seat, and an effective operation

of an air conditioner,

wherein the image is acquired by the car-mounted imaging apparatus.